GENERAL ASSEMBLY
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2015 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 100

AS ENACTED

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ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BY K. Adler

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION honoring the aerospace/aviation products manufacturing
2 industry upon becoming the top exporting industry in the Commonwealth, and directing a
3 study of the economic impact of the overall aerospace/aviation industry in the
4 Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, in February 2014, the Governor announced that the value of annual
6 Kentucky exports had broken records for the third consecutive year; and that aerospace
7 products manufactured in Kentucky led the Commonwealth's export growth with $5.6
8 billion worth of exports in 2013, just surpassing the value of exported motor vehicles and
9 motor vehicle parts; and

10 WHEREAS, as of 1998, the aerospace/aviation sector was a $10 billion industry in
11 Kentucky that employed over 100,000 people; and

12 WHEREAS, the number of people employed in the private aerospace/aviation
13 products manufacturing industry in Kentucky has increased by 63 percent since 2002,
14 with a corresponding 100 percent increase in the establishment of aerospace companies;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the availability of passenger travel and commercial/industrial freight
17 shipping through the state's six primary air carrier and 53 general aviation airports, along
18 with work currently performed at Kentucky-based plants such as Messier-Bugatti-Dowty
19 in Walton, Mazak Corporation in Florence, Indy Honeycomb in Covington, Meyer Tool,
20 Incorporated in Erlanger, GE Engine in Madisonville, Meggitt Aircraft Braking Systems
21 in Danville, Roll Forming Corporation in Shelbyville, and Lockheed-Martin-Bluegrass
22 Station in Lexington, has helped cement this industry among the state's economic fabric,
23 not only creating direct high-paying jobs but also solidifying the Commonwealth as a
24 destination for aerospace/aviation manufacturers and others that see the Bluegrass State
25 as a potential location to expand their businesses and create new jobs; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2014, a portion of the Commonwealth was recognized by the
27 federal government for the strength and potential of its aerospace/aviation manufacturing

1 sector by being designated as part of the "Southwestern Ohio Aerospace Regional
2 Manufacturing Community," a status that brings with it opportunities for greater
3 development assistance and funding from various federal agencies as part of the
4 "Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership" program of the United States
5 Economic Development Administration; and

6 WHEREAS, the strength of aerospace and aviation in Kentucky has created a need
7 for greater public awareness of this thriving industry as well as more education and
8 training opportunities for employment in this field; and while there are only 98 high
9 schools across the United States that teach aerospace and aviation skills, 28 of those high
10 schools are in Kentucky, placing the students of the Commonwealth at the forefront of
11 this industry of the future; and

12 WHEREAS, many of the Commonwealth's postsecondary institutions are working
13 to ensure that future generations of Kentuckians are knowledgeable about aerospace,
14 aviation, and advanced manufacturing methods, and that proper workforce training is
15 available for aerospace, aviation, and manufacturing companies seeking to locate in
16 Kentucky; and

17 WHEREAS, Eastern Kentucky University's Professional Pilots Program, the Space
18 Science Center at Morehead State University in partnership with NASA and other
19 aerospace agencies worldwide, the University of Kentucky, Somerset Community
20 College's Aviation Maintenance Tech Program, Embry-Riddle University, and Jefferson
21 Community College collectively offer undergraduate and advanced degrees that make
22 Kentucky the standard-bearer in the field of aerospace and aviation education; and

23 WHEREAS, the National Air & Space Academy, a nonprofit educational
24 organization based at Bowman Field in Louisville, is working with member high schools,
25 airports, and others, including 28 high schools in Kentucky, as America's leading provider
26 of aeronautic and aerospace-based educational programs for high school students that
27 develop and promote proficiency in the science, technology, engineering, and

1 mathematics subjects, or STEM, producing college and career-ready graduates prepared
2 to become the next generation of aerospace workers through interactive, challenging,
3 hands-on approaches to learning that are engaging and proven effective; and
4 WHEREAS, over 5,000 children have been taught the science and physics of flight
5 through the official Aviation Museum of Kentucky, and the history of Kentuckians in
6 aerospace and aviation through the official Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame at the Blue
7 Grass Airport; and
8 WHEREAS, the aerospace/aviation industry continues to be a vital part of
9 Kentucky's economy, its education, and its culture; and the strength of the industry and
10 the essential role it plays in the lives of so many Kentuckians is a testament to its future in
11 this Commonwealth;
12 NOW, THEREFORE,
13 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***
14 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly honors the aerospace/aviation products
15 manufacturing industry upon becoming the top exporting industry in the Commonwealth.
16 ➔Section 2. The Transportation Cabinet, the Cabinet for Economic Development,
17 and the Commission on Military Affairs are directed to cooperatively study the economic
18 impact of the overall aerospace/aviation industry in the Commonwealth, pursuant to this
19 Resolution, and to report their findings to the Governor and the Legislative Research
20 Commission.
21 ➔Section 3. For its part, the Transportation Cabinet shall study the general
22 aviation airport system in the Commonwealth, examining various aspects of the general
23 aviation airport network, including but not limited to:
24 (1) Inventorying and categorizing the existing facilities, infrastructure, and based
25 aircraft, noting deficiencies, and providing suggestions for improvements to ensure that
26 Kentucky's general aviation airports are safe, well-maintained, and efficient, in
27 accordance with state and federal guidelines and regulations;

1 (2) Documenting the contribution of the state's network of general aviation
2 airports to the overall well-being of all Kentuckians, in terms of the number of airports,
3 the impacts on emergency medical transportation, and disaster relief, and identifying the
4 opportunities and benefits that these facilities provide their local communities and the
5 general public; and
6 (3) Quantifying the direct economic impact general aviation airports have on their
7 respective communities across the Commonwealth.
8 ➔Section 4. For its part, the Cabinet for Economic Development shall study the
9 aerospace/aviation products manufacturing industry in the Commonwealth, and related
10 issues, including but not limited to:
11 (1) The number and location of aerospace/aviation products manufacturing
12 facilities in the state, and an evaluation of the number of persons currently employed at
13 those facilities and their levels of compensation, with a breakdown by gender where
14 possible, as well as other economic impacts generated by the facilities;
15 (2) The unique needs of those manufacturers, and opportunities for state and local
16 government agencies, including secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, to
17 assist with meeting those needs;
18 (3) The status and impact of educational and workforce training programs
19 currently available in the state that are tailored to employment in the aerospace/aviation
20 industry, and opportunities for further development of these programs; and
21 (4) Opportunities for further growth and development of the entire
22 aerospace/aviation industry in the Commonwealth, including but not limited to the
23 possibility of expanding the Southwestern Ohio Aerospace Regional Manufacturing
24 Community to include additional regions of the Commonwealth in the future, and other
25 strategies for attracting and creating new high-paying jobs in the state.
26 ➔Section 5. For its part, the Commission on Military Affairs shall evaluate
27 military assets and infrastructure existing in the Commonwealth that may contribute to

1 the growth and development of the commercial unmanned aerial systems industry and
2 other sectors of the aerospace/aviation industry. The commission shall develop
3 recommendations that the Commonwealth may pursue, with the United States
4 Department of Defense and others, in order to capitalize on the presence of Fort
5 Campbell, Fort Knox, and other installations in the state, and to support further
6 development of the aerospace/aviation industry in Kentucky.

7 ➔Section 6. Each agency shall be responsible for its identified portion of the
8 overall study, and shall from time to time, prior to the completion of the joint final report,
9 update the General Assembly or committees thereof as to the on-going status of the study.

10 ➔Section 7. In furtherance of this study, the Transportation Cabinet, Cabinet for
11 Economic Development, and Commission on Military Affairs, shall each work
12 cooperatively with one another, and with federal, state, and local government agencies,
13 private industry groups, educational institutions, and other interested parties, as necessary,
14 and shall each seek all available sources of funding from these and other groups to defray
15 the costs of their respective portions of the study. Upon request as part of the study
16 efforts, the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, the Kentucky Department of
17 Education, and the Council on Postsecondary Education shall each cooperate with, and
18 make information and data available to, the Cabinet for Economic Development.

19 ➔Section 8. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit one
20 copy of this Resolution to the Honorable Mike Hancock, Secretary of the Kentucky
21 Transportation Cabinet, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622; one copy to the
22 Honorable Larry Hayes, Secretary of the Cabinet for Economic Development, 300 West
23 Broadway, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; and one copy to Colonel David E. Thompson
24 (USA, Retired), Executive Director and Chair of the Commission on Military Affairs,
25 700 Capital Avenue, Suite 105, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Speaker-House of Representatives

President of Senate

Attest: Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved Governor

Date 3/30/15